

securing and protecting the freedoms that United States citizens enjoy today;

Whereas it is appropriate to underscore the vital support and encouragement that families of members of the United States Armed Forces lend to the strength and commitment of those members;

Whereas it is important to inspire greater love for the United States and encourage greater support for the role of the United States Armed Forces in maintaining the superiority of the United States as a nation and in contributing to world peace;

Whereas it is appropriate to recognize the importance of maintaining a strong, equipped, well-educated, well-trained military for the United States to safeguard freedoms, humanitarianism, and peacekeeping efforts around the world;

Whereas it is important to give greater recognition for the dedication and sacrifices that individuals who serve in the United States Armed Forces have made and continue to make on behalf of the United States;

Whereas it is appropriate to display the proper honor and pride United States citizens feel towards members of the United States Armed Forces for their service;

Whereas it is important to reflect upon the sacrifices made by members of the United States Armed Forces and to show appreciation for such service;

Whereas it is appropriate to recognize, honor, and encourage the dedication and commitment of members of the United States Armed Forces in serving the United States; and

Whereas it is important to acknowledge the contributions of the many individuals who have served in the United States Armed Forces since inception of the Armed Forces: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 1999 as "National Military Appreciation Month"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to recognize and honor the dedication and commitment of the members of the United States Armed Forces and to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. THURMOND addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNETT). The Senator from South Carolina.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business, with Senators to speak for up to 10 minutes each. I further ask unanimous consent that the following Senators be recognized to speak: Senator MCCONNELL, Senator DORGAN, and Senator CONRAD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thank the Chair. (The remarks of Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. DORGAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 931 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Ms. COLLINS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

#### NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am proud to be a cosponsor of the resolution that the Senate just unanimously approved to designate May as the National Military Appreciation Month.

With troops in harm's way in Bosnia, in Serbia, in Haiti and the Persian Gulf, it is difficult to conceive of a more appropriate time for the Senate to have clearly put itself on record as supporting our brave men and women in uniform.

Regardless of how we may feel about these individual deployments, it is important that the American people send an unmistakable signal to our troops that we salute their bravery, their patriotism, their courage and their unparalleled skill as they carry out dangerous missions throughout the world.

I am proud to support our troops 100 percent, as they carry out their missions and the will of the Commander in Chief.

Mr. President, let us all join together today and every day to remember our troops throughout the world.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senate is in morning business and Senators are granted permission to speak up to 10 minutes on a Friday afternoon.

The Senator is recognized.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 20 minutes in morning business, notwithstanding the afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. ARMED FORCES IN KOSOVO

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on Monday, in the afternoon, the distinguished majority leader has scheduled a vote, so far denominated as a tabling motion on the pending S.J. Res. 20, concerning the deployment of United States Armed Forces in the Kosovo region of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Since Monday afternoon is likely to be crowded with debate on this subject and there is free time in the Senate Chamber today, I have decided to speak

about this issue because I believe it is a matter of overwhelming importance for the United States, for NATO, for Europe and, for that matter, for the world.

The resolution provides in a short statement worth reading in its entirety:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the President is authorized to use all necessary force and other means, in concert with United States allies, to accomplish United States and North Atlantic Treaty Organization objectives in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

Mr. President, I am strongly opposed to this resolution because it gives a total blank check to the President to involve the United States in any type of military action which he deems appropriate when it is the Congress of the United States that has the sole authority under the Constitution to declare war. In my view, the Congress ought not to give such a blank check, but instead ought to ask the President to come before the Congress, specifying what the President seeks to accomplish and what the means are for accomplishing that objective.

I supported the resolution for airstrikes with a specific limitation that there would not be a deployment of ground forces. We have a great many very, very important questions, the answers to which ought to be provided, in my judgment, by the executive branch, by the President, to the Congress before the Congress exercises its authority to, in effect, declare war.

Bear in mind at the outset, that the President has asked for no such authority, and that is a very important point and a threshold matter. But these are some of the questions which ought to be examined. I know that the distinguished Presiding Officer, Senator ROBERTS from Kansas, who is on the Armed Services Committee, has participated in offering legislation which conditions funding and conditions congressional authority on a number of similar issues.

These questions are of such vital importance that they bear repetition and they bear analysis and understanding by the American people, at least the relatively few who are watching on C-SPAN2 today. But these are monumental matters. These are some of the issues which I think have to be answered before the Congress is in a position to decide what authorization is to be given to the President:

First, to what extent have the forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia been degraded by the air attacks?

Second, what would the projected resistance be of the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia?

Third, what is the President's plan? So far we do not know what the President would like to do. There is not agreement among the alliance. The